

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 709

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the coaches and members of the Lady Cyclones basketball team of Elizabethton High School, Class AA State Champions.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those student-athletes who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as true champions of whom we all can be proud; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Elizabethton High School Lady Cyclones basketball team proved themselves to be the fiercest of competitors and, as such, deserving of the highest regard; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Cyclones capped a stellar season with their recent victory in the Class AA championship game, in which they defeated Knox Fulton High School 66-52 at Middle Tennessee State University's Murphy Center in Murfreesboro, capturing the first-ever girls state basketball title for a Tri-Cities area team and the first major-sport state championship for Elizabethton since the 1938 football team; and

WHEREAS, under the astute leadership of Head Coach Len Dugger, the Lady Cyclones ended their season with a 32-3 record; and

WHEREAS, in the championship game, they built a giant first-half lead and maintained it through the second half for the victory over Knox Fulton; and

WHEREAS, the outstanding players of this championship team include Kayla Marosites, Kelci Marosites, Ashley Depew, Autumn Lyon, Melenda Perry, Emily Kiser, Sarah Robinson, Haley Burleson, Emily Schubert, Sarah Bradley, Loran Campbell, Bailey Montgomery, Kyra McCrary, Brittany Campbell, Megan Pietrowski, Linda Espino, and Caitlin Gardner; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the unfailing leadership of Coach Dugger, the Lady Cyclones also received the support and guidance of assistant coach Richard Hyder, assistant coach Russ Lyon, bookkeeper Perry Perkins, administrative assistant and statistician Regina Gouge, and manager Allison Williams; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Elizabethton High School Lady Cyclones basketball team epitomize all that is good in today's student-athlete, as they have achieved a premier level of success in competition while exhibiting the highest degree of character in all aspects of life; and

WHEREAS, the perseverance, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young women not only made possible a championship season but also surely bode well for their future success; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the members of the Elizabethton High School Lady Cyclones basketball team for their outstanding championship performance and for serving as examples of the exceptional quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate the coaches and members of the Elizabethton High School Lady Cyclones basketball team upon winning the Class AA State Championship and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.